UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE FOOD SAFETY AND INSPECTION SERVICE WASHINGTON, DC

CHANGE TRANSMITTAL SHEET

X DIRECTIVE	
REVISION	
X AMENDMENT	
OTHER	
9000.1 Amend. 1	6/14/00

To improve the quality of FSIS issuances and to ensure that FSIS program personnel are provided with sufficient information and instructions, surveys are being conducted on inspection related issuances. The first survey was conducted on the contents of FSIS Directive 9000.1, Export Certification.

This change transmittal issues Questions and Answers (Q&As) that address concerns raised during the survey.

Attach this set of Q&As to FSIS Directive 9000.1 as Attachment 3.

/s/

Philip S. Derfler

Export Certification

Deputy Administrator Office of Policy, Program Development and Evaluation

DISTRIBUTION: Inspection Offices; T/A Inspectors; OPI: OPPDE

Plant Mgt; T/A Plant Mgt; TRA; ABB; PRD; Import

Offices

Questions and Answers in Response to FSIS's Survey of FSIS Directive 9000.1

1. What is meant by sensory evaluation?

Inspection program personnel perform a sensory or organoleptic evaluation by visually examining, smelling, or touching the lot of product staged for export.

2. Who is the certifying official?

The certifying official is either the inspector or the VMO who signs the export certificate. For purposes of this directive, to distinguish between the inspection program employee who signs the application and the inspection program employee or VMO who signs the certificate, we used the term "certifying official" to mean the person signing the certificate.

3. Who is an inspection program employee?

An inspection program employee is an FSIS employee who performs inspection duties in official establishments.

4. What is an "in lieu" of application?

An "in lieu" of application is a replacement application that pertains to an existing application. An "in lieu" of application is used to correct information such as changing the country of destination or correcting the establishment name.

5. Where is the 9060-6 form available?

The 9060-6, Application for Export, is available from the Landover Center, in the Export Library, on the FSIS homepage under directives and notices, and will also be included on the next issuance of the FAIM disk.

6. Does the plant receive a copy of the signed certificate?

Yes. Inspection program personnel should provide the plant with a copy of the signed certificate.

7. When multiple plants are supplying products collected in one location and consolidated into one certificate, do the individual supplier plants need to complete the application when they send in their part?

No. The exporter of the product is responsible for filing the application.

8. Do the procedures in paragraph VII of the directive need to be followed in A through D order as listed?

Yes. Inspection program personnel should perform the procedures in paragraph VII in the A-D order unless the establishment has procedures in place as outlined in paragraph VIII of the directive. In such cases, inspection program personnel verify that the establishment has the procedures from paragraph VIII in place. Inspection program personnel would still need to perform the activities in paragraph VII, but they would not need to do so in any particular order.

9. Is the export library available on Outlook?

Yes. The export library is available on Outlook. The folder includes sub-folders, Export Notices, Plant Lists, and Requirements. Click on Public Folders, All Public Folders, and then Export Library.

10. Should inspection program personnel verify that establishments have properly applied the export stamp to the product?

Although it is not a specific inspection activity outlined in the directive, inspection program personnel should look at the staged product during the export process to ensure that the export stamp has been properly applied. If an inspection program employee finds that the product is not properly stamped, he or she should retain that product.